The second form, namely the wide-front house, is much more frequently found on the islands, as well as in continental Greece, and in several places it keeps the prostyle prostoon, but usually a creeping vine takes the place of the portico. Generally the wide-front house favours a better distribution of space than does the narrow-front one. 342x

The architectural articulation of this house consists of a regular distribution of the interior: a sofa or πεζούλα with the hearth on the one side, and a wooden bed called κρέββατος or μπατηρός, on the other; the space under the bed is called ἀποκρέββατος and serves as a cellar. [354] [352]

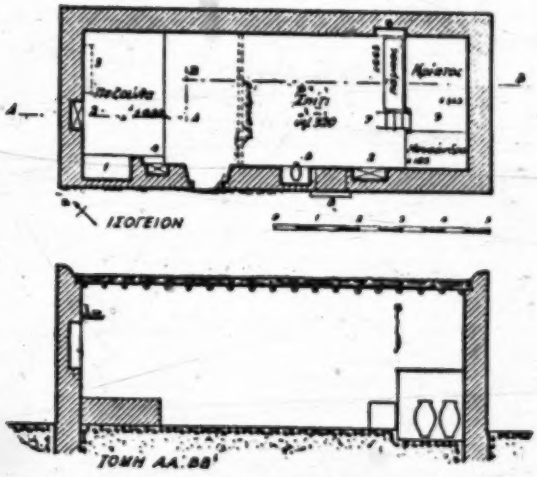


Fig. 27 Kephalos, Kôs. The long house of Maria Yiannou
(G. Megas, Λαϊκή κατοικία Δωδεκανήσου, fig. 1)
1 hearth 2 cupboards

The widening of space in this single house, (called long house, μακρυνάρι) is easy along the longer side, namely the «long wall», but not so along the narrow side, namely the «short wall», because the width of this side is determined by the beams used for the construction of the roof, which, according to the sizes of building timber prevailing in the islands and for the weight they will support, are not longer than 4-4,50 meters. Thus, the inside of the house is limited to 3.20-3.60 meters. That is why the widening along this side was obtained by the creation of a certain intermediate support of the roof, so 342x 335

x 342 that the beams would be put in two successive lines, thus covering a
335 wider space.

This support is actually created by placing a long and resistant beam of 9-12 m. lentgh, leading from the middle of the one short wall to the middle of the other, (μεσιάς, Fig. 28 Plate IXa 1[a]) or by using a shorter beam, but which is leaning on one or both its ends upon built supports called «pilieri» (single-pilieri or double-pilieri house) in Rhodes and Cyprus (Fig. 29 Plate IXa 1[b c])[1]. This beam, especially when it is long, is supported in its centre or its one end by a wooden pole.

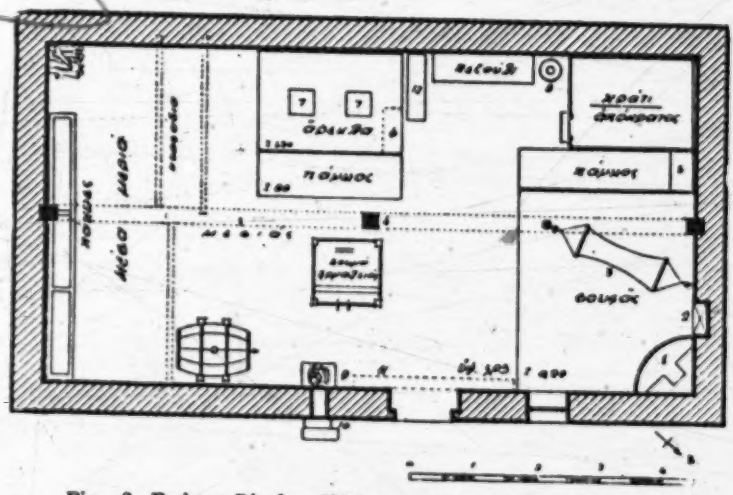

Fig. 28 Embona-Rhodes. Old house of Antony Emm. Antonakis
(G. Megas, Λαϊκή κατοικία Δωδεκανήσου, Η. 5)
Ploughing animals are stabled in the inner part (μέσα μαρά).
Μεσιάς (messias) = middle beam πάγκος = bench κρέβατι = bed ἀρσελᾶς = arcula
ἀργαλειός = loom f hearth p pole

[352 286]

x 342 In places, however, where building stone is abundant, such as
333 in many of the Cyclades, the eastern part of Rhodes, Nisyros etc. in order to support the roof, a big arch (καμάρα) is constructed, which was probably introduced in popular house building, just as the construction of domes, through the construction of fortresses, prevalent

1) G. Megas, Λαϊκή κατοικία Δωδεκανήσου, fig. 7 and 8. In Katavia of Rhodes these are called «antimissia».